NOTES ON THE NOMENCLATURE OF CERTAIN GENERA OF BIRDS

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The following notes concern the status of some seventeen generic and a few specific terms that seem to require change. Most of these, though for several years held in abeyance by the writer, appear not yet to have been published by others; a few are revivals of former changes that lately have been ignored; and one or two have been mentioned as probably necessary by recent writers who failed to go farther. The alterations in specific names pertain only to species belonging to the genera treated.

The writer is under obligation to Dr. Charles W. Richmond for various courtesies in connection with the preparation of this paper, and wishes here to express his consequent appreciation.

BELLONA Mulsant and Verreaux

This name,1 employed by authors for a genus of West India hummingbirds, is, as already pointed out by Mr. J. H. Riley,2 untenable, being preoccupied by Bellona Reichenbach,3 a genus of ornithicnites. In seeking a name for the group, however, Mr. Riley rejects the once used Orthorhyncus Lacépède as a nomen nudum because "no type was specified and the diagnosis is not diagnostic." but revives it to date from Froriep, 5 and by elimination fixes as its type Trochilus mosquitus Linnæus. Then, since Orthorhyncus would thus take the place of the present Chrysolampis, Mr. Rilev, still by process of elimination, transfers the name Chrysolampis to the group now known as Eulampis, and the term Eulampis to the unidentified "Trochilus niger" Wied. This arrangement leaves the preoccupied Bellona without a name, and it is accordingly christened Microlyssa. 6 These changes, however, can not stand, because Orthorhyncus is the proper name for Bellona, as may easily be shown; and they furthermore constitute a forcible illustration of the

¹ Bellona Mulsant and Verreaux, Classif. Troch., 1866, p. 75.

² Auk, 1904, p. 485.

³ Riley, Auk, 1904, p. 485.

⁴ Natürl. Syst. Vögel, 1852, p. xxx.

⁵ Tabl. Ois., 1799, p. 9.

⁶ Duméril's Analyt. Zool., 1806, p. 47.

instability and unsatisfactory nature of generic type determinations by elimination.

The genus *Orthorhyncus* was instituted by Lacépède¹ for the "Oiseaux mouches," undoubtedly of Buffon, a group of twenty-four species, to one of which the name of course must be applied; so that *Orthorhyncus* stands on equal basis with the other names of Lacépède proposed in the same place, which have been subsequently accepted without question. The type of *Orthorhyncus* was fixed as *Trochilus cristatus* Linnæus by Gray in 1840;² and happily enough the same species also becomes the type if this be determined by elimination.

The species of this group should therefore stand as follows:

Orthorhyncus cristatus cristatus (Linnæus).

Orthorhyncus cristatus emigrans Lawrence.

Orthorhyncus ornatus Gould.

Orthorhyncus exilis (Gmelin).

DROMÆUS Vieillot

This name, spelled as above, does not occur in Vieillot's "Analyse," and so far as we are aware was never used by this author. He does, however, in the main part of this work propose *Dromiceius* for the emus, type *Casuarius novaehollandiæ* LATHAM; and in the supplementary list where he gives the derivations of his generic names, he inserts instead of *Dromiceius* the term *Dromaius* which Ranzani later emended to *Dromæus*. Since *Dromiceius* can scarcely be considered a typographical error for *Dromaius*, it follows that the former, standing first in the book, becomes the proper name for the genus.

The species are:

Dromiceius novæhollandiæ (Latham).

Dromiceius ater (Vieillot).

Dromiceius irroratus (Bartlett).

Dromiceius patricius (De Vis) (fossil).

Dromiccius gracilipes (De Vis) (fossil).

Dromiceius queenslandiæ (De Vis) (fossil).

HYDRORNIS Milne-Edwards

The fossil genus *Hydrornis* Milne-Edwards⁶ is preoccupied by *Hydrornis* Blyth, used for a member of the Pittidæ (*Paludicola*

¹ Tabl. Ois., 1799, p. 9.

² List Gen. Birds, 1840, p. 14.

³ Analyse, 1816, p. 54.

⁴ Analyse, 1816, p. 70.

⁵ El. di. Zool., III, pt. 1, 1821, p. 98.

⁶ Rech. Oiseaux Foss. France, 1, 1867, p. 362, Tb. 57, fig. 18-22.

nipalensis Hodgson).1 It may be replaced by Dyspetornis, from δυ σπετής, difficilis, and ὄρνις, avis. The type and only species, Hydrornis natator Milne-Edwards,2 should therefore now be called: Dyspetornis natator (Milne-Edwards).

NÆNIA Boie

The name Nænia Boie³ is untenable by reason of Nænia Stephens,⁴ employed for a genus of Lepidoptera. The next available name is apparently Larosterna Blyth; but the book in which this was published, though bearing on its title page the date 1849, contains internal evidence to show that it did not appear until at least 1852. This gives priority to Inca Jardine,6 which has the same species, Sterna inca Lesson, as its type. The only species of this group, therefore, now becomes:

Inca inca (Lesson).

GNATHOSITTACA Cabanis

An earlier name for Gnathosittaca Cabanis⁷ which is based on Gnathosittaca heinei Cabanis (= Conurus icterotis Massena and Souancé) is found in Ognorhynchus Gray,8 type Conurus icterotis Massena and Souancé.

The sole species is:

Ognorhynchus icterotis (Massena and Souancé).

DASYPTILUS Wagler

The generic name commonly applied to *Psittacus pecquetii* Lesson is Dasyptilus Wagler; but this is, however, antedated by Psittrichas Lesson, 10 used for the same bird.

This species should therefore stand as:

Psittrichas pecquetii (Lesson.)

NANODES Vigors and Horsfield

The term Nanodes Vigors and Horsfield" for a group of Psittacidæ

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<sup>1</sup> Journ. As. Soc. Bengal, XII, 1843, p. 960.
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² Loc. cit.

³ *Isis*, 1844, p. 189.

⁴ Ill. Brit. Ent., 11, 1829, p. 165.

⁵ Cat. Birds Mus. As. Soc., 1852, p. 293.

⁶ Contrib. Orn., 1850, p. 33.

⁷ Journ. f. Ornith., 1864, p. 414.

⁸ List Psitt. Br. Mus., 1859, p. 33.

⁹ Abhandl. Ak. Wissensch. München, I, 1832, p. 502.

¹⁰ Illustr. Zool., 1831, pl. i; Ferussac's Bull. des Sci. Nat., xxv, June, 1831, p. 341. 11 Trans. Linn. Soc., xv, Feb., 1827, p. 274.

is rendered untenable because of Nanodes Schönherr,¹ a genus of Coleoptera. Some time ago Forbes proposed to put Lathamus Lesson in place of Nanodes Vigors and Horsfield, dating the former from 1831,³ and considering its type to be Lathamus rubrifrons Lesson (=Psittacus discolor Shaw); but the earlier use of Lathamus, also by Lesson, as a subgenus of Psittacus, for Psittacus, aurifrons Lesson,⁴ makes it a synonym of Bolborhynchus and thus unavailable for Nanodes. The next and only other synonym of Nanodes, Euphema Wagler,⁵ becomes consequently its tenable title, since this is not invalidated by Euphemus Rafinesque,⁶ a nomen nudum.

The type and sole species ought therefore to be called: *Euphema discolor* (Shaw).

DENDRORNIS Eyton

The name of the group of Dendrocolaptidæ to which the generic term *Dendrornis* Eyton[†] has been applied must apparently be changed. The type of *Xiphorhynchus* Swainson as usually cited⁸ is *Dendrocolaptes procurvus* Temminck; but earlier in the same year Swainson had used this generic name in describing *Xiphorhynchus flavigaster*,⁹ which is a member of the present genus *Dendrornis*. Although Swainson evidently intended to make *Dendrocolaptes procurvus* Temminck the type of *Xiphorhynchus*, he defeated his purpose by allowing the previous publication of *Xiphorhynchus* in combination with the name of a species of another group, such publication being quite sufficient to fix the name of a genus. Since in this case the question is not complicated by the mention of any other species, *Xiphorhynchus flavigaster* Swainso ¹⁰ must be considered the type of *Xiphorhynchus*, and this generic term therefore transferred to displace *Dendrornis*.

The species are as follows: *Xiphorhynchus guttatus* (Lichtenstein).

Xiphorhynchus guttatoides (Lafresnaye).

¹ Curc. Disp. Meth., 1826, p. 322.

² Proc. Zool. Soc. Lond., 1879, p. 166.

³ Traité d'Orn., 1831, p. 205.

⁴ Cent. Zool., 1830, p. 63, pl. 18.

⁵ Abhandl. Ak. Wissensch. München, 1, 1832, p. 492.

⁶ Anal. Nat., 1815, p. 144.

⁷ Jardine's Contr. Ornith., 1852, p. 23.

⁵ Zool. Journ., 111, Aug.-Nov., 1827, p. 354.

⁹ Phil. Mag., 1, June, 1827, p. 440.

¹⁰ Phil. Mag., 1, June, 1827, p. 440.

Xiphorhynchus palliatus (Des Murs).

Xiphorhynchus rostripallens rostripallens (Des Murs).

Xiphorhynchus rostripallens sororius (Berlepsch and Hartert).

Xiphorhynchus eytoni (Sclater).

Xiphorhynchus d'orbignianus (Pucheran and Lafresnaye).

Xiphorhynchus flavigaster flavigaster Swainson.

Xiphorhynchus flavigaster eburneirostris (Eyton).

Xiphorhynchus flavigaster mentalis (Lawrence).

Xiphorhynchus flavigaster megarhynchus (Nelson).

Xiphorhynchus striatigularis (Richmond).

Xiphorhynchus erythropygius (Sclater).

Xiphorhynchus punctigulus (Ridgway).

Xiphorhynchus triangularis triangularis (Lafresnaye).

Xiphorhynchus triangularis bogotensis (Berlepsch and Stolzmann).

Xiphorhynchus lacrymosus (Lawrence).

Xiphorhynchus lacrymosus eximius (Hellmayr).

Xiphorhynchus nanus nanus (Lawrence).

Xiphorhynchus nanus costiricensis (Ridgway).

Xiphorhynchus nanus confinis (Bangs).

Xiphorhynchus susurrans (Jardine).

Xiphorhynchus fraterculus (Ridgway).

Xiphorhynchus pardalotus (Vieillot).

Xiphorhynchus polystictus (Salvin and Godman).

Xiphorhynchus occilatus (Spix).

Xiphorhynchus lineatocapillus (Berlepsch and Leverkühn).

Xiphorhynchus insignis (Hellmayr).

Xiphorhynchus elegans (Pelzeln).

Xiphorhynchus weddelli (Lafresnaye).

Xiphorlynchus kienerii (Des Murs).

Xiphorhynchus spixi (Lesson).

Xiphorhynchus chunchotambo (Tschudi).

Xiphorhynchus multiguttatus (Lafresnaye).

Xiphorhynchus obsoletus obsoletus (Lichtenstein).

Xiphorhynchus obsoletus notatus (Eyton).

XIPHORHYNCHUS Swainson

As explained under the previous heading, the generic name Xiphorhynchus Swainson, since its type is clearly Xiphorhynchus flavigaster Swainson, belongs to Dendrornis. As the group now called Xiphorhynchus is thus left without a name, it may be known

¹ Phil. Mag., I, June, 1827, p. 440.

as Xiphornis, from $\xi i\varphi vs$, ensis, and $\delta \rho vs$, avis, and its type designated as Dendrocolaptes procurvus Temminck.

The species are:

Xiphornis procurvus (Temminck).

Xiphornis venezuelensis (Chapman).

Xiphornis trochilirostris (Lichtenstein).

Xiphornis thoracicus (Sclater).

Xiphornis lafresnayanus (d'Orbigny).

Xiphornis rufodorsalis (Chapman).

Xiphornis falcularius (Vieillot).

Xiphornis pusillus (Sclater).

Xiphornis subprocurvus (Reichenbach).

Xiphornis dorsoimmaculatus (Chapman).

Xiphornis pucheranii (Lafresnaye).

SHARPIA Bocage

The generic term *Sharpia*, bestowed by Bocage¹ on a group of Ploceidæ, is preoccupied in coleoptera by *Sharpia* Tournier.² It may be replaced by *Notiospiza*, from $\nu \dot{\alpha} \tau i \sigma s$, meridianus, and $\sigma \pi i \zeta a$, fringilla.

The type is *Sharpia angolensis* Bocage; and the two species will stand as:

Notiospiza angolensis (Bocage).

Notiospiza sanctithomæ (Hartlaub).

MALACOPTERON Eyton

Doctor Sharpe has already noted³ that *Malacopteron* Eyton is preoccupied in Coleoptera by *Malacopterus* Serville,⁵ and proposes to use *Setaria* Blyth⁶ in its place. Unfortunately this also is debarred, by *Setaria* Oken⁷ for a genus of Vermes. The genus *Ophrydornis* Büttikofer,⁸ based on *Setaria albogularis* Blyth, is quite distinct from *Malacopteron* proper, and therefore can not be employed as a substitute for the latter. Doctor Charles W. Richmond calls the writer's attention to the fact that Dr. Sharpe has recently, in seeming inadvertence, transferred this name *Ophrydornis* to the *Malacocercus*

¹ Jorn. Sci. Math. Phys. e Nat. Lisboa, vi, 1878, p. 258.

² C. R. Ent. Belg., xvI, 1873, p. cxxxvii.

³ Bull. Brit. Orn. Club, XII, 1902, p. 54.

⁴ Proc. Zool. Soc. Lond., 1839, p. 102.

⁵ Ann. Soc. Ent. France, 11, 1833, p. 565.

⁶ Journ. As. Soc. Bengal, XIII, pt. 1, 1844, p. 385.

⁷ Lehrb. d. Naturg., 1, 1815, p. xiii. ⁸ Notes Leyd. Mus., xvII, 1895, p. 101.

albogularis of Blyth, which is a Dumctia, and at the same time left Sctaria albogularis Blyth, the type of Ophrydornis, in Malacopteron (Sctaria)! Since in view of these circumstances it becomes necessary to provide a new name for Malacopteron, it may be called Horizillas, from $\delta\rho \mathcal{Z}_{\omega}$, limito, and $i\lambda\lambda\dot{a}s$, turdus, with Malacopteron magnum Eyton as the type.

The species to be referred to this group are:

Horizillas magna (Eyton).

Horizillas cinerea cinerea (Eyton).

Horizillas cinerca bungurensis (Hartert).

Horizillas rufifrons (Cabanis).

Horizillas palawanensis (Büttikofer).2

Horizillas pyrrhogenys (Temminck).

Horizillas affinis (Blyth).

Horizillas notata (Richmond).

Horizillas melanocephala (Davison).

Horizillas cinereicapilla (Salvadori).

HEDYMELA Sundevall

The generic term *Hedymela* Sundevall,³ recently employed by Dr. Sharpe for the pied flycatchers,⁴ is long antedated by *Ficedula* Brisson.⁵ The type of both is the same—*Motacilla atricapilla* Linnæus—and if Brissonian genera are accepted, as is now the all but universal practice, the latter name (*Ficedula*) must be used for this group. The *Motacilla atricapilla* of Linnæus,⁶ moreover, must give place to *Motacilla ficedula* Linnæus,⁷ a prior name for the same species. Also, the bird commonly known as *Muscicapa collaris* Bechstein⁸ must be called *Ficedula albicollis* (Temminck), because *Muscicapa collaris* Bechstein³ is preoccupied by *Muscicapa collaris* Latham,⁹ a synonym of *Platysteira cyanea*, and *Muscicapa albicollis* Temminck¹⁰ is the next available name.

The species of this genus should consequently stand as follows:

¹ Hand-List Gen. and Spec. Birds, IV, 1903, pp. 27, 38, 39.

² This is Trichostoma rufifrons Tweeddale, nec Malacopteron rufifrons Cabanis, and is the Turdinus rufifrons of Sharpe, Hand-List Gen. and Spec. Birds, IV, 1903, p. 33.

³ Ofvers. Kongl. Vetensk. Ak. Förhandl. Stockholm, 1846 (1847), p. 225.

⁴ Hand-List Gen. and Spec. Birds, III, 1901, p. 213.

⁵ Orn., 111, 1760, p. 369.

⁶ Syst. Nat., ed. 10, 1, 1758, p. 187.

⁷ Syst. Nat., ed. 10, 1, 1758, p. 185.

⁸ Gem. Naturg. Deutschl., IV, 1795, p. 495.

⁹ Ind. Orn., 11, 1790, p. 471.

¹⁰ Man. d'Orn., 1815, p. 100.

Ficedula ficedula ficedula (Linnæus).
Ficedula ficedula speculigera (Bonaparte).
Ficedula semitorquata (Homeyer).
Ficedula albicollis (Temminck).

CHENORHAMPHUS Oustalet

Chenorhamphus Oustalet,¹ based on Chenorhamphus cyanopectus Oustalet (= $Todopsis\ grayi$ Wallace), is rendered untenable by Chenoramphus Gray² of which the type is Ardea oscitans Boddaert. Since it has no other name it may be called Conopotheras, from $x\omega y\omega \pi a \theta d\eta \rho a s$, muscicapa.

The type and sole species is: Conopotheras grayi (Wallace).

HELMINTHOPHILA Ridgway

The name *Helminthophila* Ridgway,⁸ long in use for a genus of Mniotiltidæ in place of the preoccupied *Helminthophaga* Cabanis,⁴ must itself be supplanted by *Vermivora* Swainson⁵ of much earlier date. Swainson evidently intended *Vermivora* as the generic name for *Sylvia vermivora* Wilson (= *Helmitheros vermivorus* Auct. recent.), and he so published it;⁶ but in another article previously appearing, he made use of this term⁷ in combination with *Sylvia solitaria* Wilson (= *Certhia pinus* Linnæus), which species therefore becomes the type of the genus. Furthermore, *Vermivora* Swainson is not, as often considered, preoccupied by "*Vermivora*" Meyer,⁸ for this latter is merely a group name—"*Vermivora*," and not used in a generic sense at all.

The species of this genus should therefore stand as:

Vermivora chrysoptera (Linnæus).

Vermivora lawrenceii (Herrick).9

Vermivora leucobronchialis (Brewster).10

Vermivora pinus (Linnæus).

¹ Bull. Assoc. Scient. de France, XXI, 1878, No. 533, p. 248.

² Gen. Birds, 111, 1848, p. 562.

³ Bull. Nutt. Orn. Club, vII, 1882, p. 53.

⁴ Mus. Hein., 1, 1850, p. 20.

⁵ Phil. Mag., 1, June, 1827, p. 434.

⁶ Zool. Journ., III, Apr.-July (published in July or later), 1827, p. 170.

⁷ Phil. Mag., I, June, 1827, p. 434.

⁸ Besch, Vög, Liv- und Esthl., 1815, p. 118.

⁹ Probably a xanthochroic phase of V. chrysoptera, or a hybrid between V. chrysoptera and V. pinus.

¹⁰ Almost certainly a leucochroic phase of V. pinus.

Vermivora bachmani (Audubon).
Vermivora peregrina (Wilson).
Vermivora celata celata (Say).
Vermivora celata sordida (Townsend).
Vermivora celata lutescens (Ridgway).
Vermivora rubricapilla rubricapilla (Wilson).
Vermivora rubricapilla gutturalis (Ridgway).
Vermivora virginia (Baird).
Vermivora crissalis (Salvin and Godman).
Vermivora lucia (Cooper).

TIARIS Swainson

Doctor Charles W. Richmond has already shown¹ that Tiaris Swainson² belongs properly to Euetheia, but he failed to provide a name for the consequently nameless group of South American Fringillidæ for which Tiaris has commonly been employed. This, therefore, may be called Charitospisa, from $\chi d\rho \iota \tau$, gratia, and $\sigma \pi \iota \zeta a$, fringilla. The type and only species, Fringilla ornata Wied,³ needs a new specific designation on account of the earlier Fringilla ornata Vieillot,⁴ and as it has no synonyms, may be known as:

Charitospiza eucosma Oberholser.

COTURNICULUS Bonaparte

An earlier name for Coturniculus Bonaparte⁵ is found in Ammodramus Swainson, ⁶ the real type of which is Ammodramus bimaculatus Swainson—not, as commonly considered, Fringilla caudacuta Wilson (= Oriolus caudacutus Gmelin).⁷ This is a case precisely similar to those of Xiphorhynchus and Tiaris, since the first use of Ammodramus ⁹ is in the original description of Ammodramus bimaculatus, the western continental form of Ammodramus savannarum (Gmelin), antedating by several months the publication of an article wherein Fringilla caudacuta Wilson is given as the type. ¹⁰

The forms of this group will be therefore once more in possession of their former generic designation, and pass as:

¹ Auk, XIX, 1902, p. 87.

² Phil. Mag., I, June, 1827, p. 438 (type Tiaris pusilla Swainson).

³ Reis. Brasil, 11, 1821, p. 191.

⁴ Nouv. Dict. d' Hist. Nat., XII, 1817, p. 243 (Polynesia).

⁵ Geog. and Comp. List Bds. Eur. and N. A., 1838, p. 32.

⁵ Phil. Mag., I, June, 1827, p. 435.

⁷ Cf. Zool. Journ., III, Aug.-Nov., 1827, p. 348.

⁸ Antea, pp. 62, 67.

⁹ Phil. Mag., 1, June, 1827, p. 435.

¹⁰ Zool. Journ., III, Aug.-Nov., 1827, p. 348.

Ammodramus savannarum savannarum (Gmelin). Ammodramus savannarum passerinus (Wilson). Ammodramus savannarum obscurus Nelson. Ammodramus savannarum floridanus (Mearns). Ammodramus savannarum bimaculatus (Swainson).

AMMODRAMUS Swainson

Since the term Ammodramus Swainson¹ belongs to Coturniculus, as already shown,² another name is required for the group to which the former has been applied, and as there is none such available, it may be called Ammospiza, from $\breve{a}\mu,\mu\sigma$ s harena, and $\sigma\pi\iota\zeta a$, fringilla, with Oriolus caudacutus Gmelin as the type.

The species and subspecies are:

Ammospiza maritima maritima (Wilson).

Ammospiza maritima macgillivraii (Audubon).

Ammospisa maritima peninsulæ (Allen).

Ammospiza maritima fisheri (Chapman).

Ammospisa maritima sennetti (Allen).

Ammospiza nigrescens (Ridgway).

Ammospisa caudacuta caudacuta (Gmelin).

Ammospisa caudacuta nelsoni (Allen).

Ammospiza caudacuta subvirgata (Dwight).

Ammospisa lecontcii (Audubon).

Ammospiza henslowii henslowii (Audubon).

Ammospiza henslowii occidentalis (Brewster).

¹ Phil. Mag., I, June, 1827, p. 435.

² Antea, p. 67.